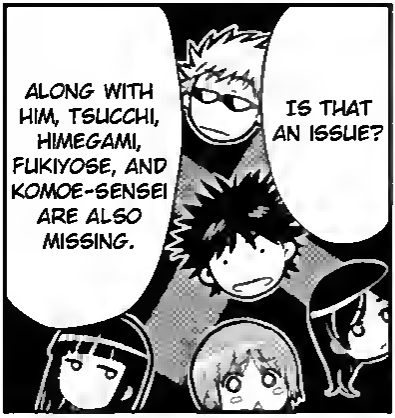
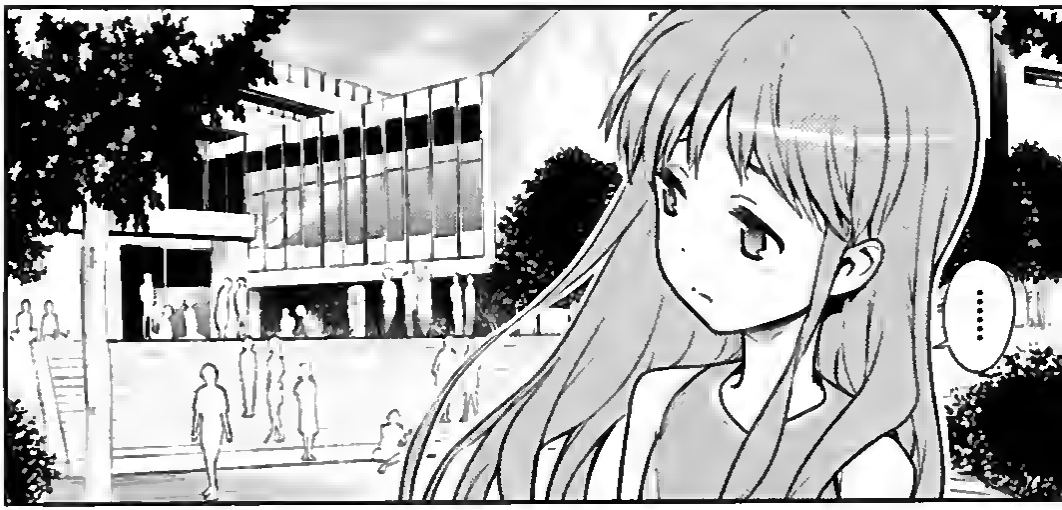
HUH? DID...
DID TOUMA STILL NOT COME BACK?


IS THAT AN ISSUE?
ALONG WITH HIM, TSUCCHI, HIMEGAMI, FUKIYOSE, AND KOMOE-SENSEI ARE ALSO MISSING.

THAT'S RIGHT.

IT FEELS LIKE SOME DARK POWER IS BEHIND IT.
YOU DON'T THINK THEY WERE KIDNAPPED TO HINDER US AT OUR EVENTS, DO YOU?
NO WAY.

SURE.
LET'S GO.
SINCE WE'RE ALL GOING TO THE STADIUM, SHALL WE GO TOGETHER?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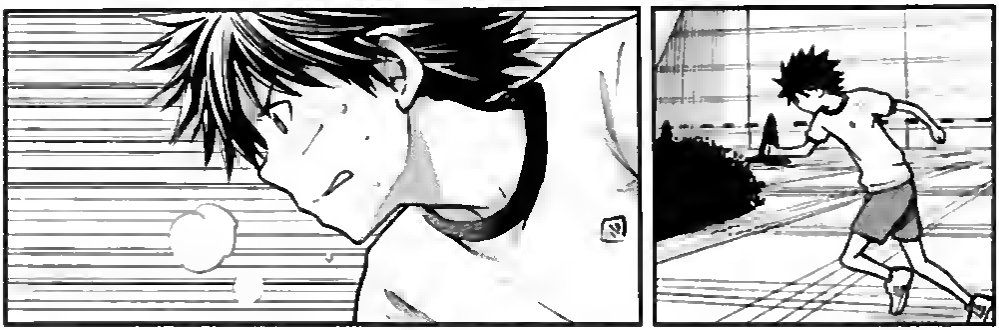

#79 Condition to Start the Operation

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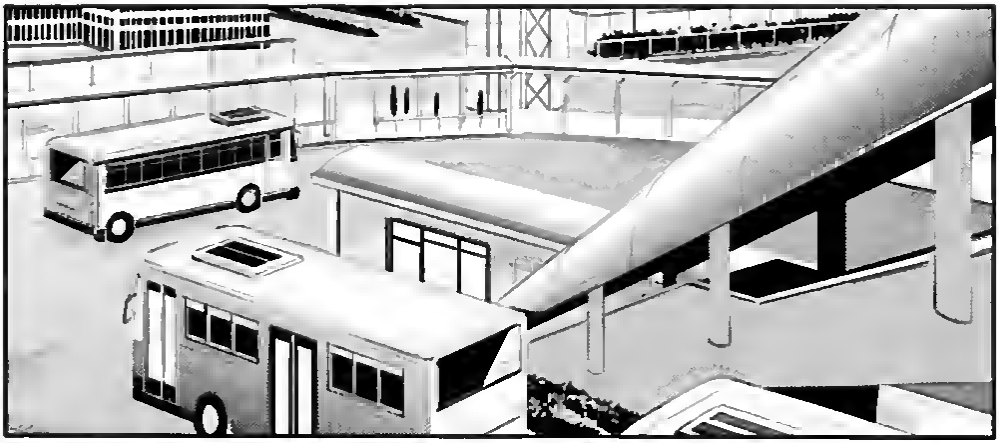

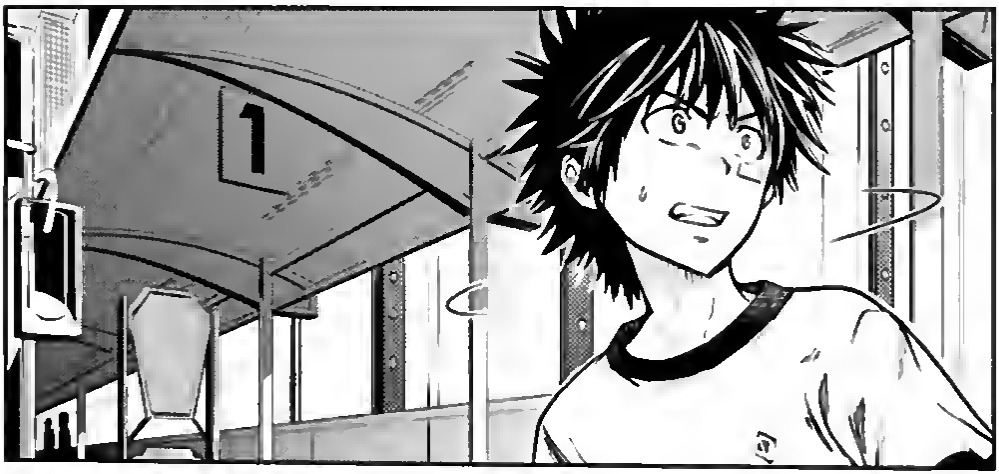
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WHERE IS SHE!?
ORIANA ...

Beep
TSUCHI-MIKADO!
DID YOU FIND ANYTHING OUT?

!
HIMEGAMI WAS INJURED.
I'M CURRENTLY AT THE BUS STOP.
ORIANA SHOULD'VE BEEN AROUND HERE TOO.
HEY, CAN'T YOU FIND HER USING THE SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE?
MOST LIKELY.
BY ORIANA?
NO, I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHETHER SHE TOOK A BUS FROM HERE OR NOT.
IT LOOKS LIKE THIS BUS LINE CIRCLES AROUND THE 7TH DISTRICT.
CIRCLES AROUND ...?
DON'T YOU HAVE A CLUE WHICH LINE SHE MIGHT'VE USED?
WE JUST DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO DO THAT RIGHT NOW.
TO DO THAT I'D NEED TO ACCESS AND SEARCH THROUGH IT.

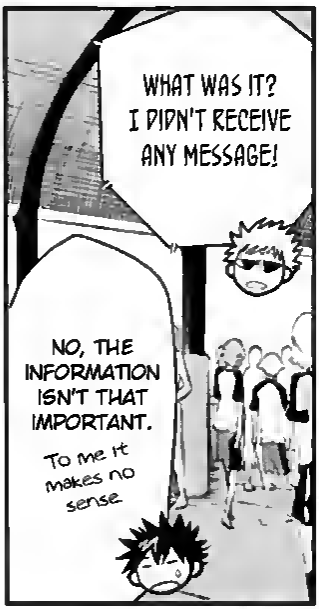
TSUCHI-MIKADO.
WHY IS ORIANA WALKING AROUND THE CITY?
.....
KAMI-YAN?
THAT'S BECAUSE... WE'RE CHASING HER, RIGHT?
I MEAN BEFORE THAT.
ORIGINALLY I HEARD IT WAS TO DELIVER PETER'S CROSS.
BUT A BUSINESS PARTNER DIDN'T EXIST IN THE FIRST PLACE, RIGHT?
YET WANDERING AROUND AIMLESSLY ONLY RAISES HER RISK, RIGHT?

Clank
I HAVE NO IDEA.
BUT... IT MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE CONDITIONS TO ACTIVATE PETER'S CROSS.
YOU'D NEED TO CONTACT STIYL FOR THAT THOUGH.

THAT'S TRUE, NYAH.
IF SO... THERE SHOULD BE A REASON WHY SHE RISKS MOVING AROUND SO MUCH.
A REASON?

AH.
SPEAKING OF THAT, I GOT A MESSAGE I SHOULD FORWARD TO YOU.

KAMI-YAN.
NO MATTER HOW TRIVIAL, I WANT EVERY HINT.
IT DOESN'T MATTER, JUST SEND IT.


WHAT WAS IT? I DIDN'T RECEIVE ANY MESSAGE!
NO, THE INFORMATION ISN'T THAT IMPORTANT.
To me it makes no sense

OKAY, BUT CAN YOU READ IT EVEN IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT LANGUAGE IT IS?

HOW IS IT?
YEAH, IT'S IN ITALIAN, NYAH.
LOOKS LIKE A RECORD ABOUT THE CLEAN UP OF THE VAULT THAT STORES PETER'S CROSS THAT HAPPENS TWICE A YEAR.

I'M NOT EVEN SURE IF THE NOTEBOOK IS COPIED CORRECTLY.
I SEE.
SO IT REALLY DOESN'T HAVE ANY VALUABLE INFORMATION?
LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER BUREAU'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RECORDS.
IT DOESN'T SAY MUCH ABOUT WHAT'S INSIDE THE VAULT ITSELF.

DO YOU THINK PETER'S CROSS IS ACTIVATED WHILE IN SUNLIGHT?
IF SO, ORIANA WOULD'VE ACTIVATED IT A LONG TIME AGO.

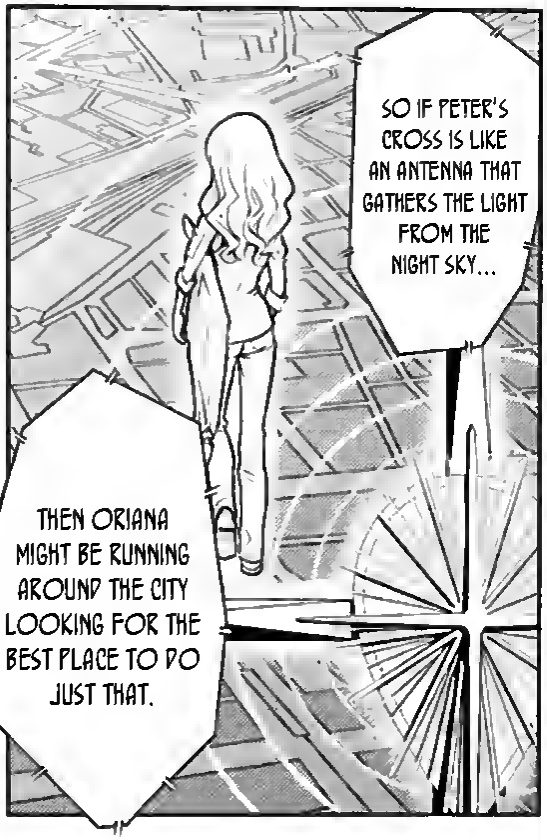
"THE MAJOR CLEANUP ABSOLUTELY HAS TO BE FINISHED DURING THE DAY IT'S BEEN SETTLED ON."
I WONDER ABOUT THAT.
IF THERE'S A HINT THERE... I SEE...
"THE VAULT MUST NOT BE EXPOSED TO LIGHT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES."

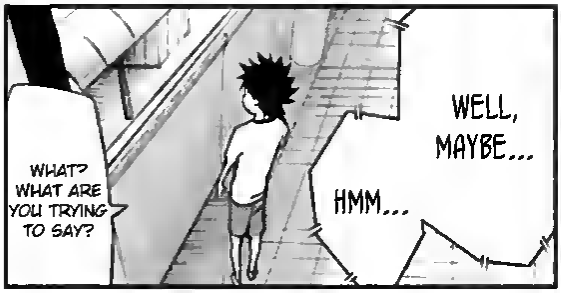
LIGHT ...

THEY SEEM TO HAVE READ THEIR HOROSCOPE DURING THEIR WORK FOR FUN.
AFTER THAT... NO GOOD, JUST SOME RAMBLING TO THE PERSON IN CHARGE.
RAMB-LING?
IT APPEARS LIKE HE HAD A PROBLEM WITH HIS WORK.
.....
YEAH...
THAT'S RIGHT...
PETER'S CROSS IS AN EXTREMELY VALUABLE OBJECT TO THE ROMAN CHURCH, ISN'T IT?
HMM.
THE PEOPLE IN CHARGE SEEM TO BE A PARTICULAR PIETY PART OF THE CHURCH.
A GROUP OF ELITES, I WOULD SAY.
HORO-SCOPES ...
STAR SIGNS ...
SO IF YOU THINK ABOUT ANOTHER MEANING BESIDES DOING IT FOR FUN...
THEN WHY DID THEY ENTRUST ITS CONTROL TO SUCH AN IRRESPONSIBLE BUNCH?

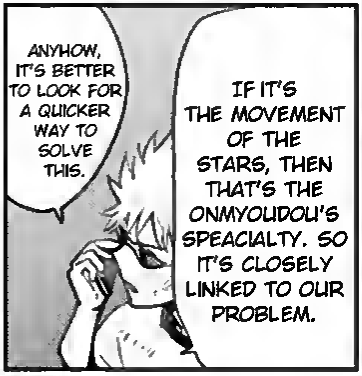
MOST LIKELY,
IF YOU ADD THE STARS' POSITION TO THE MIX, YOU CAN GAIN AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF POWER.

THE LIGHT OF THE STARS!?


SO IF PETER'S CROSS IS LIKE AN ANTENNA THAT GATHERS THE LIGHT FROM THE NIGHT SKY...
THEN ORIANA MIGHT BE RUNNING AROUND THE CITY LOOKING FOR THE BEST PLACE TO DO JUST THAT.


WELL, MAYBE...
HMM...
WHAT? WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?

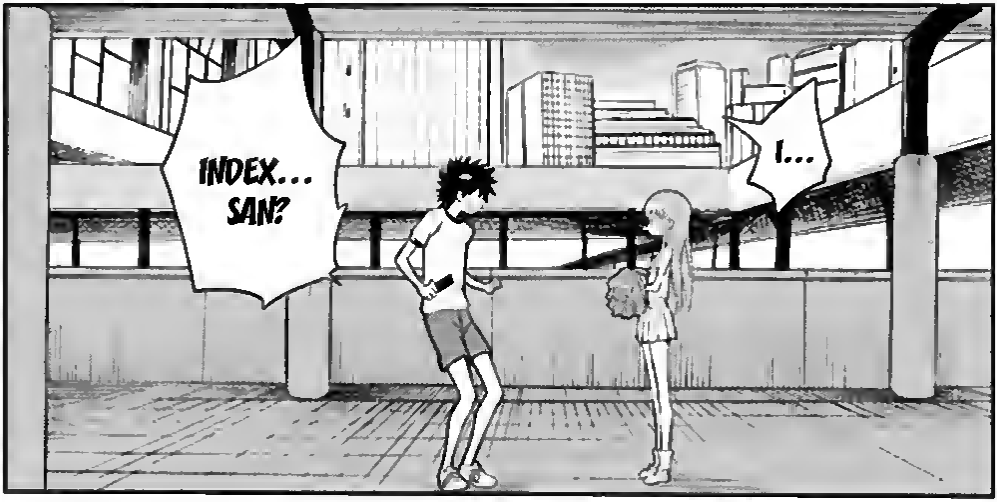
IS THERE ANYWAY TO DETERMINE THE BEST SPOT!?


IF IT'S THE MOVEMENT OF THE STARS, THEN THAT'S THE ONMYOUDOU'S SPEACIALTY. SO IT'S CLOSELY LINKED TO OUR PROBLEM.
ANYHOW, IT'S BETTER TO LOOK FOR A QUICKER WAY TO SOLVE THIS.

ASSUMING ORIANA IS WAITING FOR THE STARS TO COME OUT TO USE PETER'S CROSS...

WE ONLY HAVE UNTIL SUNSET.

ズーン
SO YOU RAN OFF SOMEWHERE BY YOURSELF AGAIN.
THEN WHERE SHOULD I LOOK NOW?


INDEX... SAN?
I...

THEY ALREADY STARTED LOOKING FOR YOU.
WHY AREN'T YOU WITH THE REST OF YOUR CLASS?

TOUMA?

I THOUGHT I MESSAGED EVERYONE BEFOREHAND ...
MESS-AGE?

W-WELL, THE THING IS...
YOU SEE, THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HAD A SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER...!
So I'm helping out
HOW ODD, HUH? HAHA...

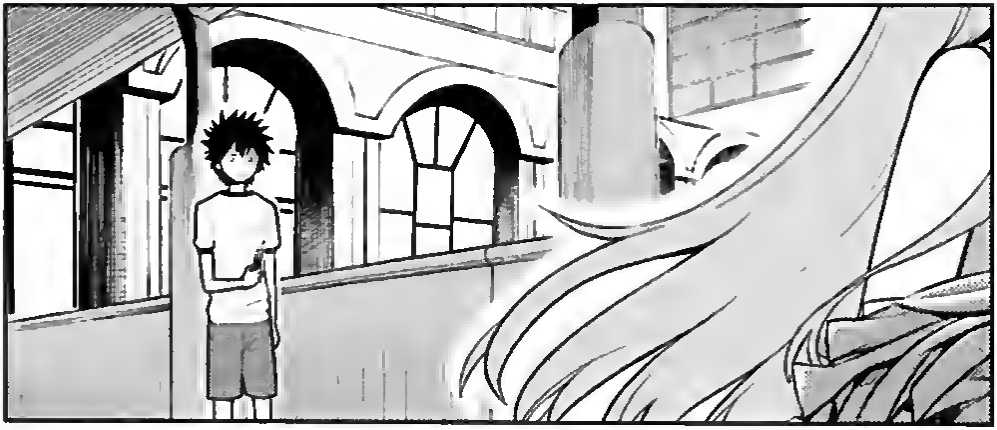
TOUMA, TOUMA.

THEY SAID THAT NEXT UP WILL BE GROUP GYMNASTICS.
ARE YOU GOING TO COME?

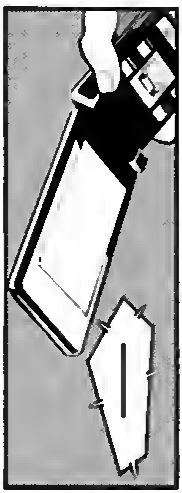
SORRY, I'M A LITTLE BUSY HERE, INDEX.
SO CAN YOU WAIT FOR ME WITH EVERYONE ELSE?
??
AH! HELLO, IS THERE A SUB-STITUTE AVAILABLE?
NOPE, THERE ISN'T. REALLY, NOTHING'S CHANGED.

I'LL COME.
I'M GONNA FINISH HELPING HERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

SO CAN YOU WAIT A LITTLE BIT MORE, INDEX?
YEAH.
I UNDER-STAND.
MAKE SURE YOU COME, TOUMA!
YOU KNOW,
KOMOE TAUGHT ME A CHEERLEADING DANCE.
SO I'M SURE YOU'LL BE SURPRISED WHEN YOU SEE IT.



I'M SORRY, KAMI-YAN.
NO...



SO I WAS THINKING...

I...
DON'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT YOU GUYS SUFFERING WHEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.
SMILING WHILE NOT KNOWING ANYTHING WOULD BE UNBEARABLE.

OF PUSHING EVERYTHING I DON'T LIKE ON INDEX.
IT'S STUPID, RIGHT?
I DON'T WANT HER TO GET INVOLVED.
MAYBE I'M BEING A LITTLE BIT SELFISH...
I'M SO DUMB.

RRRR
Oops.
AT THE CLOCK TOWER ON THE PLAZA OF THE ARCADE STREET.
OK, THEN LATER.

STIYL ...!?
WHY THAT DULL VOICE?

THE SCHOOL GIRL MADE IT.

Pheeew
HIMEGAMI IS SAVED?

HONESTLY, I DON'T WANT TO PERFORM THIS TECHNIQUE A SECOND TIME.
WE'VE REINFORCED HER TORN BLOOD VESSELS, GAVE HER SOME BLOOD AND BY TAKING AWAY HER SENSE OF PAIN, WE'VE ALSO MILDENED HER SHOCK SYMPTOMS IT SEEMS.
THE REST IS THE DOCTOR'S JOB.

I THOUGHT SOMETHING WOULD GO WRONG THE WHOLE TIME.
TO RELY ON SOMEONE WHO IS INEXPERIENCED IN HEALING MAGIC IS JUST A FOOLISH WALK ON A TIGHTROPE.

SLAM
Guah

SORRY.
...THANK YOU.
Hmm?
DON'T THANK ME.
HOW OFTEN DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU, I DON'T PLAN ON BEING YOUR FRIEND...

BUCHU
AAAAA
SENSEI DIDN'T THANK YOU YET!
IF YOU HADN'T BEEN THERE ...
HIME-GAMI-CHAN MIGHT HAVE...
HIBE *SNIFF* GAMI-CHAN MIGHT HAVE!! WHAAAAAAAA!!!
STOP THAT! I UNDERSTAND, SO DON'T CLING TO ME LIKE THAT!!
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE HAVING A HARD TIME OVER THERE.

ANYWAY, THE RECOVERY IS FINISHED!
SO I'M GONNA MEET UP WITH YOU...
AS SOON AS I'VE GOTTEN RID OF THIS PERSON...
HIME-GAMI
I'M SO GLAD ...!
I'M COMING BACK AS SOON AS I'M DONE WITH THIS!
TO THE DAIHA-SEISAI!!